



## CITY OF LODI

## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Authorize City Manager to Approve Sales of Dirt from DeBenedetti Park/G-Basin  
MEETING DATE: June 18, 2002 (Special Meeting)  
PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** That the City Council authorize the City Manager to approve excavation and sales of dirt from DeBenedetti Park/G-Basin in order to expedite site development and save costs, and execute applicable documents.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Recently the City Council approved the concept plan for DeBenedetti Park/G-Basin. Staff is currently working with our consultants to prepare a grading plan that would allow for excavation of the basin as a separate contract from other park improvements.

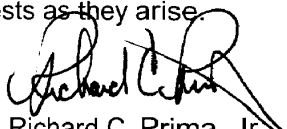
The concept plan and preliminary budget included an estimate that the site would need 400,000 cubic yards (CY) of excavation at a cost of \$1.4 million. In order to reduce this cost, staff has planned that we would bid and let a grading contract that could take place over two to three years duration. With sufficient time, a contractor could excavate the basin as needs for dirt in the area arise and would not have to stockpile and double-handle the dirt. This would very likely result in our being able to get the excavation and grading done at no cost. (This is basically how excavation for Salas Park was handled.) This arrangement would still allow the City to develop a portion of the park – some of the “high ground” area – while the major excavation was being done, should we have the funds to do so. However, this plan will take a few months to implement.

In recent years, the City has allowed development projects to excavate the basin to provide drainage capacity for their project and/or to provide fill. In the latter case, the Developers have paid the City \$1.00 per CY for the dirt. In both cases, the developer is responsible for providing a grading plan, doing the excavation, grading, loading, hauling and performing dust control – basically, all costs involved in the work.

Most recently, the City has received some calls from individuals and contractors seeking dirt. The quantities have ranged from a few thousand yards to over 100,000 CY. While we have not had extensive negotiations, the requestors have assumed that the dirt would be available at little or no cost. The price that dirt might sell for depends on a variety of factors – quality, quantity, distance from source to project site and related costs for excavation, such as dust control. Staff is still researching this issue, but has heard of wide variations in price. Typically however, the price includes loading by the seller into buyer's trucks which the City is not prepared to do. Staff will present additional information at the meeting on price issues.

Staff does feel the time and cost savings is significant and that we should be able to proceed in an expeditious manner to take advantage of requests as they arise.

**FUNDING:** None needed at this time.

  
Richard C. Prima, Jr.  
Public Works Director

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APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

  
H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager